

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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ATO Osaka participates in "American Day 2012 - Discover U.S.A.; FAS Tokyo Welcomes Oregon Delegation to Japan; The First Shipment of U.S. Dogwood Trees Arrives in Japan.

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ATO Osaka participates in "American Day 2012 - Discover U.S.A.": On September 29, the Agricultural Trade Office (ATO) Osaka participated in the "American Day 2012 - Discover U.S.A.," a one-day event sponsored by the U.S. Consulate General Osaka-Kobe. The event, which was held at one of the largest shopping malls in the Kansai region, aimed to promote the United States as a country, highlighting areas such as education, tourism, food and business. Hundreds of shoppers of varying ages visited the ATO Osaka's booth and got a chance to learn about the variety and versatility of U.S. foods and wines.



FAS Tokyo Welcomes Oregon Delegation to Japan: On Monday, October 22, the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Tokyo met with a state delegation from Oregon to brief the team on agriculture issues in Japan, including Japanese production and consumption, the status of U.S. exports, and future market developments. The visitors, who were accompanying the Governor of Oregon during his official visit to Japan, included representatives from the Oregon Department of Agriculture, as well as representatives from Oregon dairy, potato, and other agricultural sectors. The Agricultural Trade Office (ATO) Tokyo arranged a tour of the Ohta Market, one of the largest wholesale markets in Tokyo, where the delegation got a chance to interact with Japanese importers.

The First Shipment of U.S. Dogwood Trees Arrives in Japan: On October 6, the first shipment of 10 dogwood trees arrived at Narita Airport. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Japan, with the assistance of a Japanese tree specialist, coordinated the smooth shipment of trees to Japan. The trees were part of the 3,000 dogwood trees the United States decided to give to Japan in commemoration of the centennial anniversary of the Japanese cherry trees gift given to Washington, D.C. One hundred dogwood trees will reportedly be planted at Yoyogi Park in Tokyo on November 16. The rest of the trees will be sent throughout Japan including areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. Japanese media quoted remarks by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, James Zumwalt, "I hope that the dogwood trees will be a symbol of rebuilding the disaster-stricken areas as well as the friendship between Japan and the United States."

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